

CHRB NEWS & REVIEW

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

MAY, 1998

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY

ISSUE 11

RCI to Meet in California, Elect Scurfield

Ralph Scurfield, chairman of the California Horse Racing Board, will be elected chairman of the Association of Racing Commissioners International when the RCI conducts its annual convention May 9-13 in Palm Springs.

The RCI is a 64-year-old organization that represents racing commissions throughout North America and the Caribbean. Many of its programs and recommendations enhance the integrity of horse racing and help provide uniformity in the regulation of a multi-billion-dollar industry.

Scurfield, who was first appointed to the CHRB by Governor George



RALPH SCURFIELD

Deukmejian in 1991, was reappointed by Governor Pete Wilson in 1995 to a term that expires July 26, 1999. Last December his colleagues on the Board re-elected him to his sixth consecutive one-year term as CHRB chairman.

Scurfield has been serving in various executive positions of the RCI since 1994. He will serve a one-year term as RCI chairman. He becomes only the fourth Californian to chair the organization and the first since John Newman completed his term in 1975. The others were Lloyd Wright (1947-48) and Neil Curry (1963-64).

(Continued on page 10)

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Back in 1981 when I was training racehorses in the Midwest and lucky enough to have a nice stakes horse to bring to California, I remember what a treat it was for me to come out West and be a small part of what I've always considered the finest racing circuit in the country.

And now that I've moved here permanently and served four years as executive director of the CHRB, my admiration for California racing has only increased. I only wish everyone could participate, one way or another, in the success and bright future of horse racing in California.

This year, we've had the opportunity to share our visions with a great number of industry leaders. The Thoroughbred Racing Associations held its annual convention in California last February, followed immediately by the Harness Tracks of America convention. The American Quarter Horse Association met in Anaheim the following month.

Soon the Association of Racing Commissioners International will convene its annual meeting in Palm Springs, giving us yet another chance to extend our hospitality and spread the message that California wants to be an integral part of the national racing industry.

With great pride, I will witness the election of our Board chairman, Ralph Scurfield, to the position of RCI chairman during the convention. Chairman Scurfield will be the first chairman of the national organization from California in 24 years.

Nobody works harder or is more committed to protecting the integrity of horse racing than Chairman Scurfield. We couldn't have a better goodwill ambassador. No one is more qualified than him to take the reins of this powerful organization and promote the merits of horse racing in California and North America.

Roy C. Wood, Jr.
Roy C. Wood, Jr.



IN THE GOLDEN STATE

CHRB WORKING WITH HORSEMEN AND OTHER SECURITY FORCES AT SAN LUIS REY DOWNS

Michael Kilpack, the CHRB supervising investigator for the Southern California thoroughbred region, reports on Community Policing and other innovative efforts under way at the San Diego County training center in order to provide a safe and productive working environment for the horse racing community.

By Michael Kilpack
CHRB Supervising Investigator

Working closely with horsemen, management, and the San Diego Sheriff's Department, the California Horse Racing Board is taking a team approach to improving security at the San Luis Rey Downs (SLRD) training center in Bonsall, where about 400 horses are stabled.

The 35 trainers and their 250 workers at the thoroughbred training center 30 miles northeast of Del Mar form a small, close racing community that wishes to avoid trouble as much as possible. They are eager to cooperate with authorities, which makes SLRD a perfect fit with CHRB policies.

For the last several years, CHRB investigators have been touring the backstretches of California urging horsemen to help in the policing effort of the state's racetracks. The CHRB even established a toll-free telephone call-in service (800-805-7223) for concerned individuals to report any suspected improper activities.

The concept of community-oriented policing and problem solving (COPPS) is to maintain a shared responsibility in maintaining public safety and to promote a quality of life in the horse training community.

The focus of the COPPS team is problem solving. Deputy Tom Vrabel from the Fallbrook Sheriff's Office and myself have aligned our efforts with the management and security staff at SLRD to increase security and open lines of communication with the trainers and their employees.

Our efforts to date have been extremely appreciated and accepted by the backside. Already our stepped-up activities have led to the arrest of individuals not authorized to be in the stable area on charges relating to narcotics, weapons, and outstanding warrants.

"With an active security force and the proper handling of

CHRB violations, hopefully the calls for sheriff's services will diminish," said Vrabel.

"The horsemen at San Luis Rey are thrilled, absolutely thrilled, that this is happening," said trainer Leigh Ann Howard, president of the SLRD horsemen's organization.

"We've had problems in the past where workers would get ruled off the track at Hollywood Park or Santa Anita, then show up here and we would unknowingly hire them," she continued. "We don't want unauthorized workers here. We want to turn in people who cause trouble. Now, with help from the CHRB, we will be able to keep those people off our property."



CALENDAR

MAY

9 – RCI convention begins in Palm Springs.

JUNE

12 – CHRB monthly meeting convenes in Davis.
17 – Mixed-breed fair meet opens in Stockton.

JULY

1 – Mixed-breed fair meet opens in Pleasanton.
15 – Mixed-breed fair meet opens in Vallejo.
22 – Thoroughbred meet opens in Del Mar.
23 – CHRB monthly meeting convenes in Del Mar.
29 – Mixed-breed fair meet opens in Santa Rosa.

THE EQUINE PRESCRIPTION

FROM THE DESK OF THE CHRB
EQUINE MEDICAL DIRECTOR



DR. RON JENSEN

The California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) and California racetracks, with the cooperation of veterinarians, trainers, and owners, have funded a racetrack postmortem examination program since 1990.

It was the first and is the largest such program of its kind in the United States and perhaps the world. The success of the program has gained national and international attention among racing associations, equine practitioners and researchers who study racing injuries. In 1996, the American Association of Equine Practitioners awarded the program with its inaugural Equine Welfare Award.

Among the findings of the postmortem examination program is evidence that preexisting stress fractures are often a source of complete fractures in long bones and that frequent exercise at high rates of speed increase the risk of catastrophic injury. Another interesting finding was that the use of shoes with toe grabs increases the risk of injury to the suspensory apparatus.

NEW STUDY LAUNCHED

The observation that certain type of horseshoes and training intensity were more commonly involved in catastrophic injuries has led to a new research project. This new study proposes to examine the relationship of shoeing, hoof conformation, and training intensity to non-catastrophic injuries sustained by horses that are training and racing.

Dr. Sue Stover will lead a University of California at Davis research team that will closely follow 200 horses training at Santa Anita and Hollywood Park. They will identify and record the types of shoes worn by the horses and the training methods employed.

Horses in the study will be examined daily. The observations will be recorded in a strictly confidential and

anonymous manner and will not interfere or interrupt the training schedule of the horse. It is important to note that to ensure that the information collected will be unbiased and confidential it will not be shared with anyone, including the owner or the trainer. Nor will the researcher make any recommendations concerning the training or the shoeing of the horse.

After the study is over, the data will be analyzed to see if there are any common denominators that are associated with the injuries observed. The overall goal of the study is, of course, to identify factors that may increase the risk of injury and to devise strategies to reduce those risks.

Dr. Ronald Jensen

Summaries of the information collected will be shared, in a non-identifying manner, with the racing industry and the veterinary community.

HORSEMEN ARE COOPERATING

The study is currently under way at Santa Anita and Hollywood Park. Dr. Stover reports that she has been very pleased by the cooperation she and her team have received from the owners, trainers, and veterinarians at the tracks. Researchers from U.C. Davis have been conducting important studies at California racetracks for many years, and they have built a solid foundation of trust with horsemen.

It should be mentioned that this research has been funded by the United States Department of Agriculture. This is noteworthy because equine research is not often funded by the Agriculture Department.

The CHRB has also funded research in commonly used therapeutic medications. Some of this research is described by Dr. Scott Stanley and Dr. Cynthia Kollias-Baker on page 4 of this newsletter.



Methocarbamol Study Under Way at UC Davis

**By Dr. Scott Stanley
and Dr. Cynthia Kollias-Baker
University of California at Davis**

At the March meeting of the CHRB Medication Committee, the Equine Analytical Chemistry Laboratory at UC Davis presented a preliminary report on the results of methocarbamol testing.

Methocarbamol, more widely known as Robaxin,TM is a mild muscle relaxant that is approved for use in horses. The recommended dose, depending on the severity of muscle soreness, ranges from 2 – 25 mg per pound of body weight. It is available in tablet form for oral administration and as an aqueous solution for administration intravenously.

During this testing, methocarbamol was administered either orally or intravenously to horses at various doses, and urine samples were collected for 54 hours after administration. Truesdail Laboratories, using its standard method of thin layer chromatography (TLC), analyzed the samples for the presence of methocarbamol.

The results of the preliminary testing show that when 5 grams of methocarbamol were administered intravenously, either once or three times a day for two days, the drug was below the TLC limit of detection in all of the horses tested by 48 hours after administration.

However, the results of the clearance studies when methocarbamol was administered orally were less

straightforward. For example, when 20 grams of methocarbamol were administered orally, either once or twice a day for three days, the drug could be detected in urine from several of the horses for 48 hours or more after administration.

These results are not surprising because the absorption of orally administered drugs can be very erratic, which can cause detection times to be very prolonged. It is important to note, however, that the doses administered on the racetrack, as determined by a survey of practitioners, are generally smaller than those tested in these studies. Therefore, additional oral administrations of methocarbamol using smaller doses of the drug are currently under way.

Based on the results of these studies, if veterinarians administer 5 grams or less of methocarbamol, intravenously, at least 48 hours before a race, a positive test for methocarbamol would be very unlikely.

The objective of the additional studies is to determine a dose of methocarbamol that when administered orally will clear from the horse's system by 48 hours after administration as determined by TLC analysis. It is hoped that the end result of this testing will be a guideline for administration of methocarbamol that will ensure the integrity of racing in California, while allowing veterinarians to treat horses as medically appropriate.



In case you haven't heard...

ANNUAL REPORT ON INTERNET

The CHRB annual report to the Governor and Legislature, which summarizes the fiscal year 1996-97 and cites some of the 1997 racing highlights, can be viewed in its entirety on the CHRB Web Page at: <http://www.chrb.ca.gov>

The report provides useful information about enforcement activities, laboratory services, the track safety program, horse racing revenues, and horsemen's welfare funds.

MORE CHARITY FUNDS FOR RACING

A new state law supported by the CHRB requires that at least 20% of all racing-generated Charity Day Proceeds must be distributed to racing-related charities.

For example, the Shoemaker Foundation and the Winners Foundation were among the racing charities that received \$73,500 this year from Hollywood Park Racing Charities.

CHRB WHIP RULE MODEL FOR U.S.

The Kentucky Racing Commission approved a new regulation governing the use of whips by jockeys. The Kentucky regulations are similar to those recently approved in New York and Florida, which in turn were based on California rules designed to prevent the abuse of racehorses.

CHRB SUPPORTS NTRA

The CHRB actively supports the National Thoroughbred Racing Association and endorsed state legislation authorizing California horsemen to participate in the national effort by assigning a percentage of purses to go to the NTRA.

In response to these efforts, D.G. Van Clief, the RCI interim CEO, wrote to CHRB Chairman Ralph Scurfield: "I want to thank you and the members of the Board for getting behind this effort with such a high degree of enthusiasm."

BE OUR GUEST...



The California Horse Racing Board believes the best way to regulate an industry is to be fully informed. The CHRB regularly solicits input from the public and the horse racing industry, and this guest editorial page is one more forum for that purpose.

This guest editorial is provided by Tony Chamblin, president of the Association of Racing Commissioners International (RCI), which will conduct its annual convention May 9-13 in California. During his long career, Chamblin has been a turf writer, track operator, and industry leader, and he is one of the most respected figures in the North American racing industry.

The California Horse Racing Board is one of the strongest members of the RCI, so it is appropriate that CHRB Chairman Ralph Scurfield will be elected to the prestigious position of RCI chairman when the group assembles in Palm Springs for its annual convention.

Commissioner Scurfield advocates strength and unity, which were the founding principles of the organization that was formed as a result of the proliferation of racing in the 1930s. By 1934 it became clear that if racing was to mature as a national sport, each state no longer could function alone, as an island, unmindful of other states' rules and regulations. So, racing commissioners from nine states formed a national organization that would "encourage forceful and honest nationwide control of racing for the protection of the public."

Today the RCI represents racing commissions from throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, and the Caribbean, and includes associate member groups from around the world. Its members regulate a multi-billion-dollar industry involving 250,000 licensees.

The RCI sponsors an annual convention, annual regional conferences, and a "University Workshop" for racing commissioners and their executive staffs. The annual meeting is widely attended by members and associates throughout the international racing industry.

The RCI, which recently upgraded its informational data base to a more modern and secure system providing Internet access to all members, maintains licensing and rulings data on North American racing participants. Members have at their fingertips the massive international files that contain nearly 1.5 million entries.

The Drug Testing Standards and Practices Program, chaired for the past two years by Commissioner Scurfield, budgets several hundred thousand dollars each year to set minimum standards of performance and procedures for racing laboratories and to monitor their ability to routinely detect and confirm certain drugs.

The RCI has also established uniform classification guidelines for foreign substances by categorizing more than 600 drugs based on their qualities. And this year the RCI will disburse nearly \$100,000 for research on difficult-to-detect drugs that affect the integrity of the sport.

In an effort to promote uniformity in racing, the RCI promulgates and recommends model rules to racing commissions. Approximately 80 percent of all RCI model rules have been substantively and universally implemented. The RCI has adopted a model rule that calls for recognition, by one jurisdiction, of licenses and fingerprint reports from other jurisdictions. Our goal is that jurisdictions one day recognize a RCI card, much like a driver's license or credit card, for licensing purposes throughout North America.

The CHRB has adopted most of the RCI model rules, including by reference the entire 61-page chapter on pari-mutuel wagering rules, so that California tracks have the choice of using RCI or CHRB wagering rules.

In order to achieve the highest level of integrity in racing, the RCI has instituted procedures for accreditation of stewards and judges. Candidates for accreditation must attend classes and pass tests at educational "schools" and continuing education seminars. At the request of the RCI, the schools have developed uniform and standardized examinations. Thus far, more than 500 stewards and judges have received accreditation by this RCI-administered program.

The RCI is fulfilling its mission to protect and uphold the integrity of pari-mutuel sports through an informed membership, by encouraging forceful and uniform regulations, and by promotion of the health and welfare of the industry. The RCI and its member jurisdictions sometimes are criticized for problems beyond their control when, in fairness, if they had the unilateral support of the industry, most problems could be rather easily resolved.

Preliminary Agenda for the 1998 Convention of the

Saturday, May 9

8 a.m. — 5 p.m.	Registration Desk Open
9 a.m. — 12 p.m.	Drug Testing Standards and Practices Committee
1 p.m. — 5 p.m.	Board of Directors
5 p.m. — 7 p.m.	Executive Directors

Sunday, May 10

7 a.m. — 8 a.m.	Continental Breakfast for All Registrants
8 a.m. — 5 p.m.	Registration Desk Open
8 a.m. — 9 a.m.	Audit Committee
	Flat Racing Model Rules Subcommittee
8 a.m. — 10 a.m.	Constitution and Bylaws Committee
9 a.m. — 10 a.m.	Winners Federation Alliance Committee
	Racing Officials Accreditation Standards Technical Subcommittee (Harness)
	Greyhound Racing Model Rules Subcommittee
9 a.m. — 11 a.m.	Database Committee
10 a.m. — 11 a.m.	Finance Committee
10 a.m. — 11 a.m.	Judiciary and Legislative
10 a.m. — 11 a.m.	Racing Officials Accreditation Standards Technical Subcommittee (Flat)
11 a.m. — 12 p.m.	Universal Licensing Committee
	Racing Officials Accreditation Standards Technical Subcommittee (Greyhound)
1 p.m. — 2 p.m.	Harness Racing Model Rules Subcommittee
1 p.m. — 2 p.m.	Racing Officials Accreditation Committee
1 p.m. — 2 p.m.	Indian Gaming Committee
1 p.m. — 3 p.m.	Information Services Committee
1 p.m. — 5 p.m.	International Relations Committee
	Totalisator Standards Committee
2 p.m. — 3 p.m.	Off-Track Betting/Simulcasting Committee
	Safety and Security Committee
3 p.m. — 4 p.m.	Schools of Racing Committee
3 p.m. — 5 p.m.	Model Rules and Practices Committee
6 p.m. — 7 p.m.	General Membership Meeting
	Welcoming Remarks — Speakers to be announced
	Roll Call — Mrs. Eva Waters, secretary
	Chairman's Address — Mr. Santo Lalomia
	Appointment of Nominating and Resolutions Committees — Mr. Lalomia
7 p.m. — 9 p.m.	Welcoming Reception

Monday, May 11

7 a.m. — 8 a.m.	Continental Breakfast for All Registrants
8 a.m. — 5 p.m.	Registration Desk Open
8 a.m. — 9 a.m.	Business Session
	Report of Treasurer — Mr. Arthur Khoury
	Report of Bylaws Committee — Mr. Dennis Lee
	Report of Nominating Committee

Association of Racing Commissioners International

9 a.m. — 12 p.m.	General Session — Speakers to include: Stanley F. Bergstein, executive vice-president Harness Tracks of America Jay Hickey, president, American Horse Council R.D. Hubbard, chairman, Hollywood Park Turf Club Tom Lomangino, technical consultant, RCI DTSP Program D. Wayne Lukas, leading thoroughbred trainer Gary Norwood, president American Association of Equine Practitioners Ralph Scurfield, RCI chairman-elect Tim Smith, CEO, National Thoroughbred Racing Association Mark Wilson, president, Hubbard Enterprises
12 p.m. — 12:30 p.m.	Reception
12:30 p.m. —	Awards Luncheon — Guest Speaker Bob Lewis, chairman, Thoroughbred Owners of California and owner of Kentucky Derby winner Silver Charm
3 p.m. — 5 p.m.	University for Commissioners Workshop

Tuesday, May 12

7 a.m. — 8 a.m.	Continental Breakfast for All Registrants
8 a.m. — 5 p.m.	Registration Desk Open
8 a.m. — 9 a.m.	General Membership Meeting
	Business Session Election of Officers Report of Bylaws Committee Report of Resolutions Committee Reports of Other Committees
9 a.m. — 12 p.m.	General Session
9 a.m. — 9:30 a.m.	Demonstration of New RCI Database — Jon McKinnie, chairman, Information Services Committee; Mory Atashkar, chairman, Database Committee
9:30 a.m. — 10 a.m.	RCI Plan for Universal Licensing — Tony Chamblin, president, RCI; Frank Zanzuccki, chairman, Universal Licensing Committee
10 a.m. — 10:45 a.m.	RCI Drug Testing Standards and Practices Program — Ralph Scurfield, chairman, DTSP Committee; George Maylin, director, Interstate Drug Testing Research Program; Dr. Scott Stanley, spokesman, Testing Integrity Program
10:45 a.m. — 11:15 a.m.	RCI Model Rules and Standards — Luther Heckman, chairman, Model Rules Committee; John Walzak, chairman, Totalisator Standards Committee
11:15 a.m. — 12 p.m.	RCI Racing Officials Accreditation Program — Bob Lawrence, director, Equine Industry Program, University of Louisville; Wendy Davis, instructor, Race Track Industry Program, University of Arizona
12 p.m. —	Regional Caucuses Region I New Jersey and New York Region II Delaware, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Virginia and West Virginia Region III California and Washington Region IV Alberta, Manitoba, Nevada and New Mexico Region V Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and Ontario Region VI Indiana, Iowa and Nebraska Region VII Alabama (Mobile County), Arkansas and Kentucky Region VIII Canada, Jamaica, Mexico, Puerto Rico and Trinidad-Tobago

CHRB Maintains Public and Private Information

By Wendy Voss
CHRB Staff

There are state laws governing the protection and disclosure of personal information as well as public records and documents. The CHRB maintains a variety of records and documents in each of its offices. Some of these records are available to the public, others are not.

The CHRB has a Public Records Officer (PRO) located in the Sacramento headquarters office. Requests for records can be submitted by fax, mail, subpoena, summons, or personal delivery. If field office staff receive a request but are not sure whether it can be provided, they will direct the requestor to speak with the PRO.

Some examples of information routinely asked for and often provided, which do not require a written request, include a licensee's name, license number, business address, and business telephone number.

All other public records requests must be in writing, and they must include the reason for the request. In other words, there must be an explanation about how the records will be used.

The PRO has 10 calendar days to respond to a request, unless other arrangements are agreed to by both the PRO and the requesting party. For all computer-generated printouts, the CHRB charges \$50 per request.

Residential addresses, telephone numbers, and social security numbers are examples of CHRB records that will not be released to the requestor because they are noted in the Information Practices Act as being of a strictly personal nature. The CHRB will release the month and day but not the year of birth.

If the CHRB is conducting an investigation, staff will not release any material in the file until the investigation has been concluded.

The following are examples of records requests received in the past by the CHRB:

- Various individuals have asked for all records, videotapes, minutes, and files of particular riding accidents.
- An individual asked for a list of all licensed jockeys, with birth dates, to use to predict the outcome of a race.
- A woman knew her deceased family members were active in horse racing, and she wanted to create a family history to give to her grandchildren, so she asked for all CHRB records of those family members' racing connections.
- The Franchise Tax Board (FTB) was looking to recover funds from any licensees who had not paid their income taxes. The FTB asked the CHRB to provide any and all records that would help them locate and recover the unpaid funds.
- A breeding farm wanted the names of all licensed owners in order to write congratulatory letters to owners of horses sired by that farm's stallions.
- The San Francisco Chronicle requested partnership details for a newspaper article.
- The sister and mother of a missing brother/son, whom they thought was a licensed jockey, were desperate to find him after a 10-year absence. They asked the CHRB for help.
- A college student in Singapore asked for a listing of California's racing organizations, so that he could use the information as part of a project to help promote horse racing in his town.

Anyone wishing to request a record from the CHRB can send the request to the Public Records Officer at the address, fax number, or e-mail address (for Wendy Voss) listed on the back page of this newsletter.



Please help us enforce California's racing rules.
Call (800) 805-7223 to report any violations.

Bay Meadows Completes Initial Phase of \$20-Million Barn Construction Project



BARN ONE — The first of five new barns being constructed at Bay Meadows Racecourse in San Mateo has been virtually completed. The new structure, which is located at the north end of the grandstand, has 162 stalls and will be the new location of the test barn and veterinary offices.

Construction of four additional barns is under way in the track's infield, along with a 200-foot-long tunnel. The four infield structures will provide stalls for 740 horses, for a

total stable-area population of 900 horses.

The racing office and stewards' offices will be in modular buildings to be located between Barn One and the north end of the grandstand.

The total cost of the project will be in excess of \$20 million. The construction schedule calls for completion of all work by July 15, two weeks before horses are scheduled to arrive in advance of the San Mateo County Fair meet, which begins August 12.

*Articles and photographs appropriate for CHRB News & Review may be submitted to Mike Marten of the CHRB staff:
12235 Beach Blvd., Suite 7, Stanton, CA, 90680.
(714) 890-7004, fax (714) 890-7006.*

Although the RCI was formed in 1934 (then known as the National Association of State Racing Commissioners) to bring all U.S. racing jurisdictions together in order to provide honest nationwide control of racing, in recent years there has been some fragmentation of the organization. Accordingly, Scurfield indicated his desire to commence the process of re-unifying the RCI into one complete and productive body.

“My thrust will be to point out to all of the jurisdictions in North America that there should be one strong national organization for the regulation of horse racing, and that the RCI is the group best suited to meet our common objectives,” explained Scurfield. “That will be my focus. That will be my message.

“The main reason I’m a supporter of the RCI is it gives us the best opportunity to go to the horse racing industry, to spell out what we believe the national interests of racing are, and to win the industry’s support.”

OPERATES IMPORTANT PROGRAMS

During the last six decades, the RCI has begun many programs to protect the integrity of horse racing. For example, the Drug Testing Standards and Practices Program (which, incidentally, has been chaired the last two years by Scurfield) makes certain that laboratories conducting drug testing on behalf of the racing industry are able to meet minimum standards of performance.

Through administration sets and blind samples issued by drug administration centers, the program monitors the ability of industry drug-testing laboratories to detect and confirm certain drugs on a routine basis.

The Winners Federation came under the umbrella of the RCI last year to better direct its efforts in fighting substance abuse within the racing industry.

Utilizing the resources of the University of Arizona Race Track Industry Program and the University of Louisville Equine Industry Program, the RCI helps ensure that racing stewards are qualified to perform their jobs. The RCI accreditation process requires stewards to attend classes and continuing education seminars and to pass tests.

RCI DATA BASE A VITAL TOOL

Perhaps the most important RCI program is its upgraded informational data base that provides Internet access to all members. With more than a million entries, including stewards’ rulings and background information on licensees, the RCI data base is a critical part of the licensing and regulatory programs of participating state agencies.

The RCI also publishes a newsletter of topical events and a bulletin of recent rulings, publishes an annual statistical summary, and provides information on a regular basis to members, associate members, and the media.

DEVELOPS MODEL RULES

Although there are more than 50 rule books in use by independent racing jurisdictions throughout North America, those rules are becoming increasingly alike, thanks to the RCI model rules program, which develops and recommends standardized rules that can be used by all racing jurisdictions. For example, one model rule calls for the recognition of licenses between jurisdictions. The CHRB is a strong supporter of the model rules program and of license reciprocity.

“Simulcasting makes us all partners, whether we like it or not.”

Ralph Scurfield

“I think it’s imperative that we have model rules,” said Scurfield. “Perhaps the individual state commissions are too independent to ever adopt just one standard rule book, but the closer we can get to uniform regulation, the better it will be for everyone involved. We’re working on a national license for owners and trainers right now, and that will be huge step in the right direction. We also have the Drug Testing Standards and Practices Program, which helps give uniformity to the medication regulations and matters. And our data base allows all of the participants to see what happened in other jurisdictions regarding licensees.

“The tremendous growth of simulcast wagering has made it even more critical for us to provide uniformity in regulation,” continued Scurfield. “Simulcasting makes us all partners, whether we like it or not. This is especially true in California, which is one of the largest exporters of simulcast races. There are people in outlets in hundreds of other jurisdictions who are placing wagers on California races. They need reassurance that California is properly regulated — that it is part of the national team.”

The annual convention provides a perfect forum for participants to learn more about these RCI programs and to discuss other pressing matters. More than 150 people are registered for the upcoming meeting in Palm Springs, which will be held at the Marquis Resort.

The business session of the meeting will feature prominent guest speakers and reviews of major ongoing RCI programs. There will be a demonstration of the organization’s updated data base, presentation of a plan for universal licensing, and discussions on drug testing standards and practices.

(Continued on page 11)

CHRB HONORS TRAINER NOBLE THREEWITT

“Noble Threewitt was the youngest thoroughbred trainer in North America when he launched his career at Caliente racetrack in 1932 at the age of 21, and today he is the oldest active trainer in California at the age of 87.”

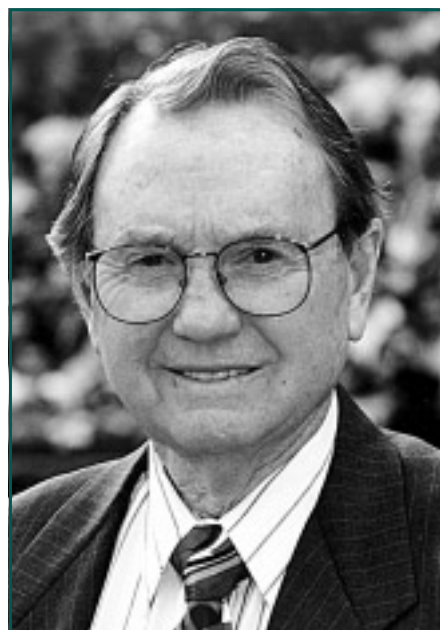
CHRB Resolution

The California Horse Racing Board adopted a formal resolution at its April meeting honoring revered trainer Noble Threewitt for his lifetime achievements and his contributions to the sport of horse racing.

Threewitt, who at the age of 87 still trains horses daily, serves as president of both the Thoroughbred Trainers of California and the California Thoroughbred Horsemen's Foundation and as a director of the Shoemaker Foundation. The Board made special note of these and other notable services Threewitt has performed during more than six decades in the industry.

“With the support and encouragement from Beryl, his wife of 65 years, Noble Threewitt has been a tireless advocate for workers in the stable area,” read the resolution, “helping to improve their working conditions, upgrade their dining facilities, lower the cost of their food at track kitchens, and provide them with free clothing.”

Threewitt also was commended for his service in the United States Army during World War II, during which time he earned a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star for heroism in battle.



RCI

(Continued from page 10)

The Winners Foundation will make a special presentation on strategies to combat human substance abuse. (Please see the center section of this newsletter for a detailed agenda for the convention.)

Philosophically, Scurfield believes the RCI and its members should do more than regulate horse racing; he advocates promoting the sport in order to make it stronger, to improve its health, to safeguard the revenue stream from racing to state and local governments, and to protect the jobs of hundreds of thousands of Americans who are employed, either directly or indirectly, by the horse racing industry.

“If we don't promote horse racing, what are we going to have left to regulate?” said Scurfield. “The national organization should not only deal with standards and regulations, but it should also be a strong advocate for our sport.”

“This marriage of regulation and promotion is so important, it was written right into the Horse Racing Law of California, which requires us to encourage ‘agriculture and the breeding of horses’ and to provide ‘for maximum expansion of horseracing opportunities in the public interest.’

“As chairman of the RCI, I will have the opportunity to expand California's leadership role in the horse racing industry.”

Ralph Scurfield

“I believe the promotion and support of horse racing is critical. I am espousing this mandate unhesitantly and wholeheartedly.

“As chairman of the RCI, I will have the opportunity to expand California's leadership role in the horse racing industry. Frankly, part of my decision to accept this responsibility is based on my desire to give something back to the sport that has been so good to California and been so good to me.”



CHRB ADDRESSES, NAMES, & NUMBERS

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95825
(916) 263-6000 Fax: (916) 263-6042

Ralph M. Scurfield, chairman
Stefan Manolakas, vice-chairman

George Nicholaw, commissioner
Joseph B. Fenley, commissioner

Robert H. Tourtelot, commissioner
Christo D. Bardis, commissioner

Jack Coffey, commissioner

Roy C. Wood, Jr., executive director

RoyW@chrb.ca.gov

Roy Minami, assistant executive director

RoyM@chrb.ca.gov

Paige Noble, chief of administration

PaigeN@chrb.ca.gov

Jacqueline Wagner, policy-regulations manager

JackieW@chrb.ca.gov

Denise Craigo, business services officer

DeniseC@chrb.ca.gov

Wendy Voss, administrative analyst

WendyV@chrb.ca.gov

Sue Ross, licensing manager

SusanR@chrb.ca.gov

John Reagan, senior management auditor

JohnR@chrb.ca.gov

Mory Atashkar, chief information officer

MoryA@chrb.ca.gov

Pat Noble, program analyst

PatN@chrb.ca.gov

Harold Coburn, program analyst

HaroldA@chrb.ca.gov

Georgia Folkes, accounting officer

GeorgiaF@chrb.ca.gov

Dr. Ronald Jensen, equine medical director

RJensen@chrb.ca.gov

Wendy Matsuda, personnel analyst

WendyM@chrb.ca.gov

John Schillin, supervisor simulcast wagering

CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD

Field Offices / Personnel

Robert Nieto, chief investigator

(714) 890-7003

12235 Beach Blvd, # 7, Stanton, CA 90680

Michael Kilpack, supervising investigator south

(626) 574-6349 / (310) 419-1508 / (619) 755-1141

285 W. Huntington Dr., Arcadia, CA 91007

Robert Gai, supervising investigator north

(650) 573-4607 / (510) 559-7430

2600 S. Delaware St., San Mateo, CA 94403

Marla Lloyd, supervising investigator Los Alamitos

(714) 236-4362

4961 Katella Ave., Los Alamitos, CA 90720

Norma Williams, licensing supervisor

(626) 574-6348 / (310) 419-1508 / (714) 236-4366

4961 Katella Ave., Los Alamitos, CA 90720

Mike Marten, program analyst/public information

(714) 890-7004 Pager: (714) 212-0325

12235 Beach Blvd., # 7, Stanton, CA 90680

mike.marten@mci2000.com

The address for the CHRB Internet site is: <http://www.chrb.ca.gov>.